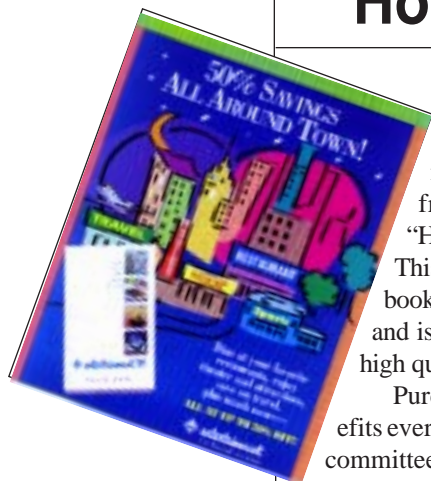


Reality: *There is no sadder sight in the world than to see a beautiful theory killed by a brutal fact.*
—Thomas Henry Huxley, English biologist, 1825-95

Ho'okupu Ohana still needs support



With Christmas right around the corner, the time has never been better for people to purchase Entertainment '99 books as gifts for their families, friends, and even themselves, said "Ho'okupu Ohana" chairman David Lau. This is especially true because at \$30, the book is eight dollars cheaper than last year, and is still loaded with discount coupons for high quality restaurants and services, he said. Purchasing the book from the Ohana benefits everyone in HQ POD and HED. The Ohana committee is still very much in existence despite recent changes in organizational structure, is still

employee-oriented, and still needs support.

To obtain a copy of the book, call any committee member:

- ◆ David Lau, POD-PM, 438-6912
- ◆ Bingo Chee, POD-ET-C, 438-6965
- ◆ Val Lee, POH-PP-MM, 438-2573
- ◆ Wendy Mow, POH-PP-MM, 438-6907
- ◆ Helen Stuppelbeen, POH-ED, 438-7009
- ◆ Tim Young, POH-ED-CP, 438-7013
- ◆ Ron Pang, POH-ED-S, 438-9530
- ◆ Dawn Awaya, POH-OC, 438-1104

Entertainment '99 books are immediately available for \$30 and may be used all the way until the end of October 1999.

Federal-State partnering

Corps golfers, Governor in return match

HONOLULU--Two years ago, before POD and HED became stand-alone organizations, POD played host to Hawaii Gov. Ben Cayetano and his staff for a day of 'terrain analysis' at Schofield Barracks' Kalakaua Golf Course. This summer, the state of Hawaii reciprocated in kind by inviting 16 golfers from HQ POD and HED for a "partnering" session at Kapolei Golf Course.

Participants from the Corps were Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters, HED commander; Ray Jyo, ED; Sam Song, ED-M; Ken Ibara, ED-DC; Kwan Do Kim, PP-P; Wendell Awada, ED-MA; Jim

Bersson, CO; Bob Tom, ED-MT; Dan Nakamura, ED-DG; Gordon Kuioka, PP-P; Dickson Ma, CO-Q; Norman Kaneshige, ED-DC; Santi Mor, ED-DC; Pat Tom, CO-OP; Mike Yatsushiro, ED-MT; and Kenny Lee, ED-S.

Representing the state of Hawaii were Gov. Ben Cayetano, his former chief of staff Charles Toguchi, Dept. of Land and Natural Resources director Mike Wilson, Dept. of Transportation chief of highways Pericles Manthos, Dept. of Transportation chief of harbors Tom Fujikawa, and other state government officials.

COLA increase quietly implemented

Story by Alexander Kufel

Some federal employees on the island of Oahu in the state of Hawaii will notice an increase in their paychecks beginning with the Oct. 25 payperiod. Without fanfare, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) announced in the Oct. 21 issue of the Federal Register that COLA (Cost of Living Allowance) for General Schedule (GS), U.S. Postal Service and certain other federal employees in the City and County of Honolulu has been increased to 25 percent effective Oct. 21, up 2.5 percent over the previous rate of 22.5 percent.

According to OPM, the adjustment in the rate was determined by the results of a survey conducted during the summer of 1997. The rate for Kauai County was

increased from 17.5 percent to 20 percent. Rates in other areas that would otherwise warrant a reduction in the current level remain unchanged, they said.

OPM also noted that due to the length of time required to complete the surveys and calculate the cost-of-living indices, they believe that it is in the public interest to implement the increase immediately without the normal 30-day delay inherent in publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking. Comments to OPM must be received by Jan. 19, 1999.

COLA supplements basic salaries for certain federal employees in nonforeign areas outside the 48 contiguous states when local living costs are substantially higher than those in Washington, D.C.